LUST AND LOVE.

Ignord upon that right a weary while, A woman's head, with body of a beart, and value tried the twells to reconcile, Until the night had eccard.

We downed hank by lotus lake and bio,

caids the scaly almogard erocuttle, Our riddle still unguessed.

But he, the storms of just at times defile

yet above the victors and the vilu

The lion's body of a bestial guile, The human face that leves, believ

Cutock the pusses of the quaint old style Fast built the symbol Sphins. — William Rice Sims in New York World.

# THE RAMONET DUEL.

The mamer of giving, says the poet is of more importance than the gift. I think, however, that when the thing reperved is a blow on the face the distinction is not likely to be appreciated by the recipients. This was M. Ramonet's epinion—and he had had experience.

He was dining in a restaurant with his friends Peignos, Glousseux and Monpate, and the first named person had in the heat of argument struck him on the face. The proprietor of the restaurant, not wishing to have any disturbance, requested the party to adjourn to a small room up stairs for the purpose of settling the difficulty.

Glauseux opened the discussion, say-ing sternly, "It seems to me, gentlemen, that my friend Ramonet cannot be expected to take a blow without demanding satisfaction.

"Or he might bring a suit for damages," said Monpate more mildly. Yes, of course? cried Ramonet and Peignot, both evidently preferring the

last named measure. "I shall speak of that later," said Glousseux-and a sigh of relief escaped the parties most concerned-"but we must first," he added, "Recertain whether M. Peignot is willing to apologize to my friend Ramonet."

"I should accept," said the injured man thinkily, but Peignot, thinking he ailuded to twenty-five francs damages, exclaimed "Never!"

Very well," said Gloussoux briskly. That being the case we must now decide whether the assault constituted a slap or a blow, as there is a great difference between the two."

Peignot thought the difference might consist of a hundred france in the way of damages, so he hastened to declare that it was merely a slap, while Ramonet remarked, "All I know about it is

that I saw stars. "It is the law in affairs of honor." said Glousseux, "that a slap calls for a personal meeting, while a blow is mere-ly the act of a boor and may be referred to the police for penalty."

Ramonet and Peignot on hearing this

exclaimed simultaneously that it was a cept pay for the dinner." blow, but Glousseux begged them not to speak hastily and then added:

A blow with the fist produces a dull, solid thud, whereas a slap is sharp and resounding. Now I will leave it to Monpate to say whether it sounded like pour or like clack!"

The gentiemen appealed to replied that truth compelled him to say that he had heard clack!

"Besides that," said Glousseux triumphantly, "it is evident from the red mark on my friend's left cheek that it was a slap be received. We have now, gentlemen, nothing more to do but to arrange the details of the meeting. Menpate, you and I are willing to act as seconds; are we not?"

Here Ramenet, evidently enlightened by the stars he had seen, opened his lips to suggest a compromise, but Monpate interrupted him.

"Will you take us, or do you prefer to seek others? No? Very well, we accept the honor you offer us." "And a grave responsibility it is,"

added Glousseux; "the lives of two fellow creatures are concerned." The seconds conversed in whispers for

a few minutes, and then Glousseux remarked: "Ramonet, you have the choice of arms, and I counsel you to select

swords. "At how many paces?" gasped Peig-

"There is no question of paces,"explained Monpate. "That is only when pistois are used. The sword is infinitely preferable, for it seldom kills, but al-

'And in neither case renders the combatants ridiculous," added Glousseux. I shall attend to the weapons, and Mongate will engage the surgeon." "The surgeon!" repeated Ramonet un-

"Certainly, but you need not worry about anything-leave it all to us. You have nothing to do but to go to the appointed place at the appointed hour. Now, my friend, hold up your head and walk proudly through that crowd of journalists down stairs, and let those who witnessed the insult you received also see that you have exacted satisfaction as becomes a gentleman" -"Could we not go out by the side

door?" neked Ramonet gloomity. "You I know the way. Follow me." caid Prignot, and they escaped without

returning to the dining room. The past morning at precisely half past 10 a carriage stopped at a short dictance from the spot agreed apon, and the seconds alighted, followed by the physician: Glouseoux carried the swords under his chief.

.After a short walk they reached the spot, and Dr. Roquelle, a joily, round faceal person, said chrecily:

At the watchman's cottage there is a well stocked harmand and an excellent fishpossi. I have been there before. While we want I will go and order dinest. Do you like duck!" "Very much," said Gloussenz, "but

suppose they arrive while you are gone." The ducker.

"No, our principals." "They can begin without me. Do you prefer there reasted or fricanced? How would sels go with onions? De you like

"I mlore them." said Monpater "but you can hardly get back in time, and wer will certainly be assist."

"Do you spondend serious conse-cenced" asked the ductor in surprise.

And mine is full of plack," added

Very well! Fish, cels a la matelotte roast duck," said the doctor. "I shall not be gone long," and he hurried away.

The hour fixed for the arrival of the principals approached.
"Your watch is fast," said Glousseux,

and after waiting a little he announced. "In five minutes they will be here," but

Giousseux paced up and down impatiently and Monpate smoked a cigar in sullen silence. Ten minutes passed, fifteen, twenty-five, and yet the combatants did not come. Glousseux looked at his watch, held it up to Monpate and said in a slightly ironical tons

"Your man has not arrived!" "Nor yours," retorted the other. "He has been detained, that is all. Be

quite sure he will explain satisfactorily." 'So will mine. "It is hardly probable that both should

meet with a delay," muttered Glous "Very true, but why not M. Peignot?" "And why not M. Ramonet?"

"How do I know that he intended to come at alir

"Sir? I can answer for my friend's

"But not for his courage! Very likely he is now seated in his armchair at

"And where is your friend, may I "Your tone is insulting, sir, and I do not brook insults any more than my

"If you are not more ready to resent them than he is"-"M. Monpate, it is enough. I demand

"Certainly, you shall have it-whenever you wish.

"I wish it now!" The next instant they had thrown off their coats, seized the swords and begun to fight. Just then Ramonet and Piegnot appeared on the scene. They were walking arm in arm and conversing cheerfully, and when they caught sight

of the combatants they exclaimed in surprise: "Step! Stop!" At the same moment Dr. Rousselle arrived, breathless but radiant. "It will be delicious," he began, and then added in dismay; "so they have begun it without waiting for mel"

"Stop them!" cried Ramonet and Peignot, and the combatants, hearing them, left off brandishing the swords. "Ah, here is the man you suspected of cowardice," cried Glousseux, and Ramonet exclaimed, "Absurd," with an

air of great dignity. "Here is he whose honor you as sailed," said Monpate. "He was speaking in jest," observed

Peignot calmly. The two seconds looked at each other for a minute and burst into a peal of

laughter.
"What is the use of our fighting with each other in defence of these two cowards?" cried Glousseux.

"Permit me"— began Peignot, but Monpate interrupted him with: "I will permit you to do nothing ex-

"The ducks are reasting, and the matelotte is excellent," said the doctor. "Come, let us go, or everything will be speiled. Everybody's honor is vindicated, I am sure."

"Ernest, are you satisfied?" asked

"Perfectly so, Alfred," was Peignot's Then the whole party shook hands and

went off in high spirits.—Translated from the French of Jules Moinaux by Isabel Smithson for Romance.

Tired of His Talk.

At a recent trial in Scotland a certain lady got into the witness box to be examined, when the following conversation took place between her and the opposing counsel: Counsel-How old are you?

Miss Jane-Oh, weel, sir, I am an unmarried woman, and dinna think it right to answer that question. The Judge-Oh, yes, answer the gen-

tleman. How old are you?

Miss Jane—Weel-a-weel, I am fifty. Counsel-Are you not more? Miss Jane-Weel, I am sixty.

The inquisitive lawyer still further asked if she had any hopes of getting married, to which Miss Jane replied:

"Weel, sir, I winna tell a lee; I hinna lost hope yet," scornfully adding, "but I widna marry you, for I am sick and tired o' your palaver already."-London

A King's Miserable End.

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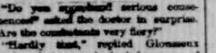
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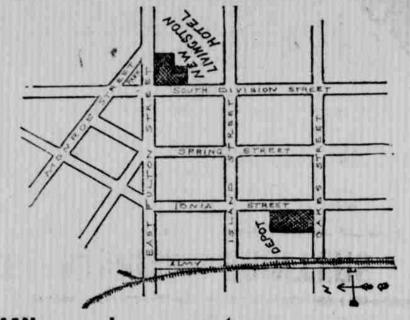
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